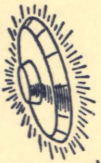
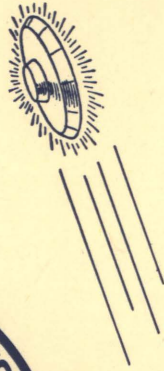


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U.F.O.

BULLETIN

The Victorian U.F.O. Research Society  
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THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

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Australia





# THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

## C O N T E N T S

Humanoids on the Murray.  
UFO over Darwin.  
Continuation of the  
Auchettl film report.  
On the UFO Trail.  
Book Review  
Citizens Against UFO  
Secrecy.  
U.F.O.R.U.N.  
Tasmanian Report.  
Overseas Reports.

.....

March - 1982.

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.....

## E D I T O R I A L.

Instead of our usual Editorial, we are substituting excerpts from a paper by Colin A. Phillips of UFO Research Queensland, to a meeting in Adelaide, South Australia, October 1981. These excellent statements are much needed awakening nudges at dreamtime ufology.

"30 years after the great UFO invasion of Earth occurred, because no physical war was fought, the battle of the mind was lost. Those who have knowledge of this event and dare speak of it, have been drowned out with laughter and ridicule or destroyed by character assassination. The world audience with its provincial view, narrow horizons and vested interests, is not ready for this new concept.

However, those who talked about swamp gas and degraded facts to clues, are still "sifting carefully through the evidence", creating UFO jargon, statistics and methods of investigation, trying to make a science of what all the time was a major historical event.

The UFO visitations to Earth of the 1950's have subsided now and the real work of UFO groups should be to use the best evidence to inform governments and citizens of the real significance of this event on our future civilization. We should have an informed public in readiness should the events of the 1950's be repeated.

All UFO researchers know that there is confusion at the top and a lot of this is purposeful to damp down public curiosity.

Secrecy surrounds not only UFO events, but also our own space programme, which has been relatively simple to maintain as the military have monopoly in these areas. However, the situation may change with the development of yet even smaller electronic components. A new generation of satellites may soon emerge smaller, able to put into orbit by cheaper rockets.

It seems that the security agencies on both sides of the Iron Curtain, have co-operated (I suspect they do this often) to maintain their monopoly on space information and maintain UFO blackout.

Most UFO researchers admit to some official censorship of UFO's. But many haven't the mental scope to encompass space itself in this censorship which it must do to be 100% effective, and if it is not 100% then there is no point. So who's allowed into space?

Professor James E. McDonald stated when concluding a lecture to the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute on 12 March 1968:

QUOTE:-

Returning now to more positive considerations, let me stress that my own studies of the UFO problem have forced me to the conclusion that it is an International scientific problem of potentially enormous importance.

In my view, the hypothesis of an extraterrestrial origin for UFOs appears (via argument by elimination of many alternative hypotheses) to be the most satisfactory hypothesis to account for the impressive body of observational evidence that has been accumulated over the past two decades of UFO sightings. Space has not permitted my confronting here the many obvious challenges that such a position properly evokes; I have confronted some of those elsewhere in cited references.

Others are simply unanswerable in terms of presently available information. That's scarcely a new situation in the history of science.

If there is admitted to be even a very slim possibility that UFOs are extraterrestrial surveillance devices of some type (and I incline to that view at present, as do many other serious students of the UFO problem), then it should be obvious that a very energetic scientific investigation of that possibility ought to be launched. Instead, to date, world scientific opinion still leans predominantly in the direction that UFOs constitute a "nonsense problem", a bothersome host of reports of misidentified natural phenomena. However, one finds that the spokesmen who most strongly emphasize that view are (with almost no exceptions) quite uninformed as to the real nature of the UFO evidence. Ridicule and official mishandling of the problem have kept the true nature of the UFO evidence well out of sight. As one American writer recently quipped, "The American public is not telling the Air Force the truth about UFOs". This has been true on a global scale, while the mass of evidence has grown steadily greater.

UFOs are, in my opinion, the greatest international scientific problem of our times.

UFQUOTE

Professor McDonald, like many others who have dared to contradict the "official fiction" is rarely quoted even by Australian research groups who have had access to his works since the 1976 Mt. Gambier UFO Conference.

--- for information

NOTE-- The full text is printed in UFO ENCOUNTER, September-October Edition, Newsletter of the U.F.O. Research (Queensland) P.O. Box 111, North Quay, Brisbane, Australia 4000



HUMANOIDS ON THE MURRAY

by Judith Magee.

Copyright 1982.

Because of the increasing interest in Close Encounter III cases, we are publishing the summary of an investigated report from our files. The identity of the witness remains confidential in order to avoid annoyance from unscrupulous individuals.

We learned of this incident when the witness phoned V.U.F.O.R.S. from Prahran, Melbourne, after reluctantly deciding to make the report.

....

On January 11th, 1974, M.D. had been fishing in the Murray River in Northern Victoria. About 9.15 pm, when the fish weren't biting and the waiting became tiresome, the mind and eyes began to wander. Away to the south M.D. saw an object with two light on, carrying out a sweeping action, from East to West and back again, just above tree top level and about twelve to fifteen miles away.

At approximately 9.40 pm, in a burst of light, the object moved to a position north west of M.D. who noticed it lit up the sky as it hovered above a cloud bank, creating much the same effect as when search lights are turned on clouds.

Believing the object had exploded, M.D. ran about 300 yds back to his car, thinking he'd collect a few pieces for souvenirs while still light enough to see. However, when he backed the car out onto the road he noticed, through a gap in the trees, that the object was going off in a north east direction.

Expecting this to be the end of the act, M.D. made for home but when he reached a clearing on the outskirts of town, about four miles from the first sighting, he once again saw the object which was this time, only about 50 feet from the ground and between 80-100 yards from the car.

By now, he was in the main street, having passed only one car, there was no one to verify his story! He had a good side view of the object (sketch (a) ) and noticed two human-like entities in the cabin or dome. They were a little taller than average, slim and were dressed in dark green uniforms and caps. One entity crossed behind the other and they both stood looking down at the car as M.D. drove past. Our witness stated he didn't see any light source in the object's cabin, but believed the glow came from below or floor level.

After driving another 200 yards, the object was directly above him and he had a good look at the underside of it. What drew his attention to the object this time were two beams of bluish light which looked 'like two columns of concrete', a little larger than telegraph poles and directed down from the object in the form of an inverted V - The object was so close, about 10-12 feet above him, that he expected to feel a 'klunk' any minute. It's dimensions were approximately 25 feet long, 20 feet wide and about 12 feet from top to base with what appeared to be two lights on the underside towards the front. The witness believes the two light beams were from these two points.

The two columns of light had peculiar lines running horizontally across them as they shone onto the road. M.D. had to draw across to the wrong side of the road to squeeze between the two shafts as they spanned the road a little to the north of it.

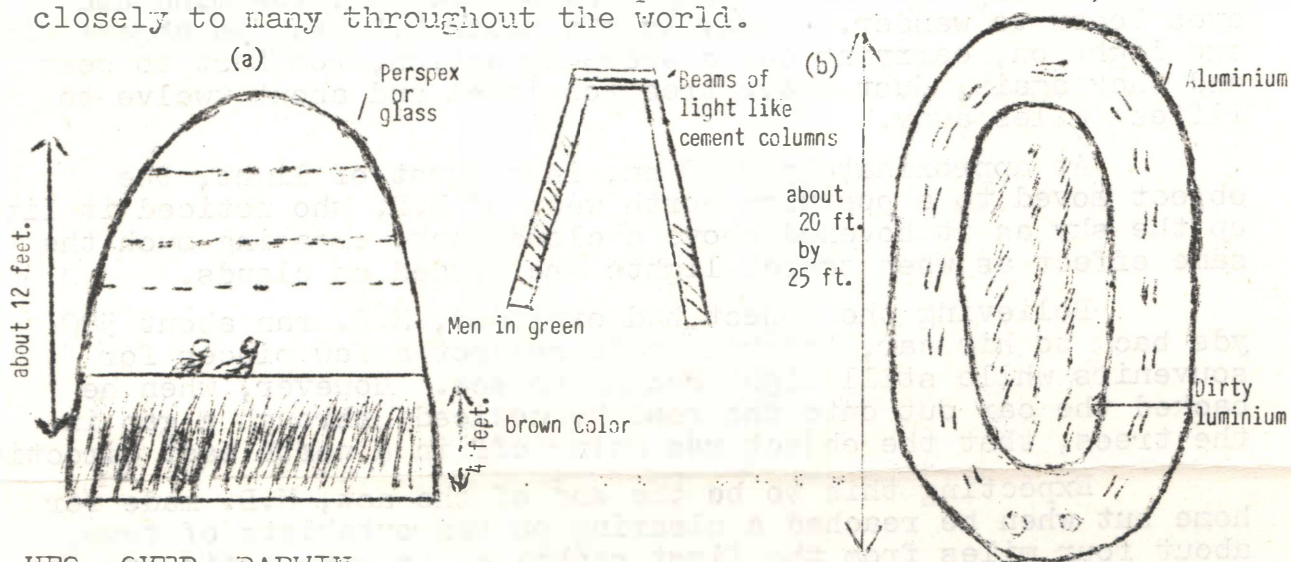
continued over...



There was no noise or any sparks and the only time the witness felt fearful was when the two columns of light were moving towards him. He said he thought they wanted to stop him and may do him some harm, and felt that the overhead telephone wires had been his saving grace, enabling him to drive between the two light columns and flee to his destination, which he reached, very shaken and white-faced.

About three feet in from the edge of the object (sketch (b) ) was a ridge of about 3-5 inches which was raised, the centre part was a 'dirty aluminium' in colour and seemed to have smoke trails on it while the outer area was a brown-bronze colour and had a number of 'exhaust slits' about 3 feet apart around the object's base. The dome was of glass or perspex type material.

This is only one of many cases where light beams have been encountered and the description of the UFO itself, tallies closely to many throughout the world.



#### UFO OVER DARWIN ....

On a clear February night in 1943, at Darwin, North West Australia, squadron aircraft of the Royal Australian Air Force were doing "circuits and bumps" - practice and training of pilots in using flare-path landing strips on night flying. We had just received in the last aircraft for that night and were preparing to refuel and get ready to return to camp when the warning was given "better hit the ground". The alarm was caused by a bright light coming in like another plane and it soon was near us and went off over the trees. No sound whatever and a steady movement, but much slower than a plane.

Our fear came because we knew of the Luftwaffe trick of trying to join up on the tail of Allied aircraft landings, in Europe, then strafing and bombing the area as they sped off. But this was no plane - Japanese or Allied - and we had never seen a parachute flare, or Verey flare, ever move as under control. Our commanding officer immediately put planes back on readiness but nothing at all happened. To me it was just a large bright light moving over the landing strip, but I have no explanation. Later, our guards company said they had seen similar, on other nights, around our area.

W. Wyatt,  
(Ex. R.A.A.F.)

## WAS THE U.O. A DRONE?

This vexing question came up in WILLIAM H. SPAULDING'S G.S.M. second letter, as he concluded his first study of the U.O. (see 2nd letter CONCLUSION NO 3)

He indicated, that there was a better than average chance, that the U.O. was a DRONE! Indeed this would seem a logical answer to the problem.

I decided to investigate this possible conclusion, and decided to address a series of letters to the following organizations -

1. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, CANBERRA.
2. ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY (RAN), TRIALS & ASSESSING UNIT, SYDNEY.
3. THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, AIRWAYS OPERATIONS DIVISION, MELB.
4. GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT FACTORIES, MELB. (maker of the drone).

It was established, that there is only one Drone in operation, within Australian airspace. This was the JINDIVIK TARGET AIRCRAFT. Performance data was easy to find as this is an Australian made Drone.

After many weeks of trying I finally received only two replies (up to this date) in answer to my questions.

The following questions are from these letters...please note that two of the questions were on the performance of the JINDIVIK only and have been left out.

- a) IS THE DRONE ONLY IN SERVICE FOR THE AUSTRALIAN NAVY?
- b) DO YOU ONLY TEST FLY THE DRONE AT JARVIS BAY, NSW, OR IS THERE AN AREA WITHIN VICTORIA THAT YOU CAN FLY THE DRONE?
- c) ARE THESE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT PERMITTED TO FLY OVER MELBOURNE?
- \*\*e) MUST THIS AIRCRAFT ALWAYS FLY IN MILITARY CONTROLLED AIRSPACE OR CAN IT FLY IN COMMERCIAL AIRSPACE OR COUNTRY AREAS?

I feel the following letters in reply cover the question quite well. My thanks to all who responded to my questions - (see print of letters only relevant part given and identification).

## CONCLUSION

I think it would be fair to summarize and say that the U.O. seen over Melbourne that day "WAS NOT A DRONE OR AN AIRCRAFT KNOWN TO AUSTRALIA".

JOHN W. AUCHETTL

###

## ON THE UFO TRAIL .... by PAUL NORMAN. (Copyright 1982)

During the last week of October 1981 VUFORS received several calls concerning the disappearance of four German tourists in a light aircraft last reported over Lake Eildon in Victoria.

After a number of press and radio reports I decided to go to the Eildon Area for a three day investigation of the incident. Unfortunately, this trip led to a wild goose chase and as this Bulletin goes to press there is no evidence that UFOs were involved.

Some journalists had misconstrued the statement made by a camper in the area that a metallic object had been seen hovering above a mountain near the lake, when actually the people only reported something on top of the mountain which they thought could be the wrecked aircraft.





\*\* LETTER NO1

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

In reply quote: 58-2-12

RAN Trials and Assessing Unit  
54-56 Miller Street  
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060  
AUSTRALIA  
TELEPHONE (02) 9297722

20 OCT 1981

Mr John W Auchettl  
30 Rawdon Hill Drive  
DANDENONG VIC 3175

Dear Sir,

In response to your letter dated 7 th October 1981, and the questions you raised in relation to the Jindivik drone, the following information is forwarded:

- a. In Australia the Jindivik drone is operated by the Navy as a high capability target for its own requirements, and as required for the Air Force and Army.
- b. The Jindivik is only operated at Jervis Bay. Prior to the mid 1970's the majority of Jindivik operations were conducted at the Woomera Rocket Range S.A. for both National and International projects.
- \* c. The Jindivik would not be permitted to fly over Melbourne, or any inhabited residential area.
- d. The Jindivik drone is controlled from a single ground station.
- e. The drone must always fly in rigidly controlled and restricted airspace.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

(NAVY OFFICE)

\*\*LETTER NO 2

RUSSELL OFFICES  
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

IN REPLY QUOTE N1550/3/13

26th October 1981

In reply to your other questions, I would like to advise the following:

- a. Question 1. The JINDIVIK is operated by the RAN for use by the three Australian Armed Services.
- b. Question 2. The JINDIVIK is operated only at the RAN's JERVIS BAY RANGE FACILITY. At this time, it is not deployed and operated anywhere else in Australia.
- c. Question 3. The above limitations apply, however, the JINDIVIK operating instructions and Air Navigation Regulations specifically prescribe where the aircraft can operate, and prohibit operation over populous areas.
- \* d. Question 4. See attached extract.
- e. Question 5. Yes, refer to Question 3 above.
- f. Question 6. See attached extract.



..Photo of  
The Tinamba  
Circles.(See  
June edition by  
Pat Gildea).The  
circles were  
discovered on the  
16th April 1981  
by Mr. Henry  
Gallantly.Since  
the finding  
VUFORS Investiga-  
tors have located  
a witness who was  
travelling toward  
Maffra, on the  
previous night  
who reported an  
object on the  
ground at the  
same spot.He at  
first thought it  
was a car which  
had rolled off  
the road. As he  
neared the scene,  
he saw a silver  
object lit up by  
a yellow light  
on its dome, and  
fled in fear.

GSW



COMPUTERIZED

..Centre Photo  
GSW Computerized  
Photo Printout  
from the  
Auchettl Film.

GSW



COMPUTERIZED (ENLARGE MT.)

..Lower Photo  
GSW Computerized  
Photo Printout  
of an object  
which is reported  
to have passed  
under a  
commercial air-  
liner on a  
flight from Hong  
Kong to Penang  
in 1976. The  
sighting caused  
excitement among  
crew and  
passengers and  
had a disturbing  
effect on  
atmosphere.



A pilot was reported to have been one of the observers when actually, after hearing about the report, he flew over the mountain and found there was no wreckage.

I interviewed three individuals who saw a flare, one of the men was an ex-air force man who was certain that it was a flare but at that time the Army was on a training assignment and could have been the source have been the source of the flare. Also from time to time flares have been shot from boats on the lake. There were no flares carried on the ill-fated aircraft.

Two months later the crashed aircraft was found on Mt. St. Leonard, near Lake Eildon.

On October 23rd 1978, three years earlier, a more spectacular observation was made by two families and several other individuals who witnessed a UFO display out over Port Phillip Bay. The families were just leaving the beach at Frankston a southern outer suburb of Melbourne, when they were astonished to see a large white light speeding from south to north. The time was about 9 pm. Just as it reached a position between Frankston and Williamstown the light flashed more intensely. At the same time a dull red light much smaller in size detached itself from the large white light and headed in the direction of the observers. As the red light flew slowly closer to the Frankston beach the awed group could see the outline of a solid object in the shape of a triangle. At this close range they could hear a low humming noise that they could not identify with any other type of aircraft.

The object travelled on past the beach in a south eastern direction. At one stage the object hovered for a minute or two then sped away at a much faster speed than when approaching the beach.

Just one more of the scores of reports which were made within two days of the mysterious disappearance of Pilot Frederick Valentich.

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#### BOOK REVIEW ... by Mark E. Sawyers

'Flying Saucers : Four Scientific Papers', by Stanton T. Friedman, is a must for any person involved in serious UFO study.

Stanton Friedman is a nuclear physicist lecturer, and is the only space scientist in the world, who is known to be devoting full time to the study of UFOs. He has lectured on UFOs in 48 American states, and 6 Canadian provinces, and is widely regarded by his colleagues as one of the most realistic and progressive men in his field - his services as a UFO lecturer are much sought after.

The first paper in this publication is called 'Science Fiction, Science, and UFOs', in which Mr. Friedman deals with the many fictitious written statements, presented misleadingly as fact, by several scientists and science fiction authors, whose scepticism on the subject seems to be based on prejudice, and not on the reality of the evidence surrounding the UFO enigma. Mr. Friedman points out the unscientific approach of these people, who choose to ignore the facts so grossly, very clearly indeed.

continued....

The second paper, 'Fiction, Fact, and Flying Saucers' is in a vein to the first, with Mr. Friedman quoting several false and misleading statements made by sceptics and government officials, and then setting about the task of taking these fabrications apart one by one, by the presentation of some very interesting facts and figures. Included in these facts and figures, are tables from the U.S. Government's own official public study, 'Project Blue Book Special Report No. 14', which, when examined, clearly contradicts official statements supposedly derived from the study itself.

In the third paper, 'A Scientific Approach to Flying Saucer Behavior', Mr. Friedman offers some of his ideas on answers to a few more commonly asked questions that he has encountered during his travels. They include such queries as why the aliens don't openly talk to us, why the aliens even bother to come here anyway, and whether or not governments are suppressing UFO data. As usual, Mr. Friedman is very thorough in his reasoning for the explanations he gives.

The fourth and final paper is called 'The Case for the Extraterrestrial Origin of Flying Saucers', in which Mr. Friedman produces some very positive evidence to support the theory that some UFOs are extraterrestrial in origin, and makes the point that we must ask the right questions and look for the answers in the right places, before we can hope to solve the mystery. Too many people try to explain the behavior of UFOs, in terms of our logic and our technology, when we are indeed dealing with a logic, an intellect, and a technology that we know nothing about.

Stanton Friedman's papers are totally absorbing from start to finish, and hold the reader's interest all the way through. The most important aspect of the papers, however, is the fact that they are written in plain English so that the layman can understand, and not in the sort of scientific jargon that one might expect from a man of Mr. Friedman's qualifications - especially when one considers that these papers were originally written for submission to other scientists.

I strongly recommend this publication to all of our readers.

FLYING SAUCERS: FOUR SCIENTIFIC PAPERS by Stanton T. Friedman, is available from : Gene Duplantier, 17 Shetland Street, Ontario M2N 1X5, Canada; and from Stanton Friedman, 110 Kings College Road, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B, 2E7, Canada.

COST : \$5.00 Canadian (incl: postage)

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17/10/81 ..Near Sydney, N.S.W. App. 02.00 hrs. Dur. 20 mins.

Crew members of an Air Cargo turbo-prop aircraft reported an incident involving 'unidentified' radar targets while flying a scheduled flight from Sydney to Brisbane.

Both the aircraft radar and Sydney A.T.C. radar registered the two targets which appeared to be travelling on a similar track and speed as the aircraft. Sydney A.T.C. was unable to identify the two targets. There was no visual contact with the targets during the incident.

(Credit: The Bulletin of 'UFO Research, F.N.Q. -

(Far North Queensland) 1981.



'CITIZENS AGAINST U.F.O. SECRECY' REPORT by Mark E. Sawyers

Late last year, I phoned Dr. Bruce Macabee in the United States, to find out the result of the Appeals Court hearing on the case for the 'Citizens Against UFO Secrecy' movement, which took place on October 28th, 1981. Unfortunately, Dr. Macabee had to pass on the bad news that the Court had ruled against the movement's cause, and that this decision was handed down in the remarkably short time of 5 days - remarkable in that actions of this nature usually take several months before a verdict is reached. However, Dr. Macabee added that the movement's lawyer was of the opinion that an appeal to the Supreme Court could have a reasonable chance of success, and this appeal was at that time, being prepared.

We will be sure to pass on to our readers any further developments on this matter, as soon as the information comes to hand. Meanwhile, the remaining classified documents in the U.S. Government's UFO files, wait anxiously to see the light of day.

\* A donation from this society to the 'Citizens Against UFO Secrecy' was accepted and acknowledged as the first donation to the cause by an overseas organisation.

\* \* \* \*

UFORUM.

P.R. of Lane Cove, NSW. writes ...

"I, like most UFO buffs, have heard about Valentich's disappearance over the Bass Strait, but can you tell me the first incidence of a UFO related disappearance of an aircraft over that area"?

Yes, P.R. we think we can answer that one for you - there have been many suspicious disappearances, not only of aircraft, but also ships. However, the first aircraft which is thought to have met a UFO over Bass Strait was a De Havilland 86 airlines which had 12 people on board. The date was 19th October, 1934, and the aircraft was almost new. Included in the crew was V.C. Holyman who was the captain and one of the family which started Australian National Airways.

The aircraft disappeared very close to land but no wreckage was ever found. Several witnesses heard the aircraft's engines stop but no one saw the aircraft actually crash. The aircraft had a radio on board but nothing was heard from them. Less than a year later another DH 86 disappeared over Bass Strait. However, some wreckage was recovered although no reason was ever given for either crash.

Both of these aircraft may have crashed due to a mechanical failure of some sort; however, the disappearance of the 'Miss. Hobart' in 1934 has always been mysterious and could well have been the result of a UFO encounter.

Members wanting questions answered should write to :

UFORUM, C/o V.U.F.O.R.S., P.O. Box 43,  
Moorabbin, Vic. 3189.

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"U.F.O. TASMANIA 1981"

The following report is from the annual publication of the Tasmanian U.F.O. Research Society (TUFOIC), P.O. Box 99, North Hobart, Tasmania, 7002. VUFORS Members may order the complete Annual Report - 80c per copy. Send order and remittance to above address.

LANDING IN HUONVILLE?

Mr. R. of Huonville had retired for the night but was awoken about 11.40 pm one night in September 1978 by his own and several neighbourhood dogs barking incessantly. Mr. R. told the story to the Centre recently after his report reached us second hand. Mr. R. who had been in the Navy for a number of years had little knowledge of the UFO phenomena. After his experience he told a number of people about the event but was ridiculed, so he kept the story to himself.

He lay in bed listening to the dogs barking for 15 minutes, then decided to get up and try to quieten them down. His own dog whom he says was extremely obedient came up to him at the back door still "carrying on and barking". Mr. R. thought there must be a prowler about so he sent his dog off to see where he would go. The dog went to the end of the back yard where a gate led into the paddock beyond. It was then for the first time the witness noticed there was something in the paddock near which the dog was now sitting and barking.

Mr. R. could see a grey object with what looked like windows: he tried to "set" his dog onto the object but it would go no closer than 15 mts. and just continued to bark. The fact that the dog sensed the presence of something convinced R he was not seeing things. R went inside and put on his clothes, collected his gun, then headed to the end of his backyard to see what he should do next. R. came to a halt about 25 mts. from the object which was across the fence apparently just sitting in the paddock. It was now that he was able to have a good look at what was there. The night was cold but moonlit. The dog continued to growl whilst other nearby dogs continued to bark.

R. says the object was boomerang-like in shape and a diffused light grey in colour. The estimated length was 10 mts and it was about 2 mts in depth. There were four windows along the side 60 x 60 cms in size. Inside these windows there was a dull light which could be seen clearly through each window. He saw nothing through the window. He could not see beneath the object. The top of the object was flat.

It was very cold so R. decided to return inside his home and watch from a back room. He wanted other witnesses to see the object but was afraid if he moved off it may disappear before he could return with someone else. It was by now 2 hours since he first saw the object feeling tired so he decided to lie down on his bed and wait for some movement.

Instead he fell asleep and on waking up in the morning there was nothing to be seen in the paddock. He went straight to the paddock but there was no trace or marks left where he had seen the boomerang shape with the light inside. R. says he was laughed down next day when he mentioned the sighting. His dog who would do anything for him knew there was something there and that was good enough for him.

The Centre had no other reports from the Huon area at that time although the next month saw a rash of cases including the Valentich incident over Bass Strait.

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FROM THE "MALAYSIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN - October 1981.

NOTES : 1979 : YEAR OF THE TINY UFOs?

UFOs...whatever they could possibly be, have been known to come in various shapes and sizes. Of late, especially the year 1979, there seem suddenly to be an upsurge of UFO reports relating to the sightings of tiny UFOs which measured in most cases less than 4 feet in diameter. Besides the 1944-45 Foo Fighter reports which is not yet fully documented, there is probably no other year in the known history of Ufology that the numbers of tiny UFO sightings showed this increase.

Perhaps we should look back and see what is so special about 1979 that this miniature group of UFOs suddenly decided to manifest. For the record the following is a list of some of the known reports for 1979 relating to the sighting of these tiny UFOs. As UFOCAT or WUFOC would show no other single year could offer this many reports of this type and therefore it is unique to label 1979 as the year of the tiny UFOs.

1.	10 MAR	Suonenjo'i, FINLAND	1.5 ft
2.	16 MAR	Suonenjo'i, FINLAND	1.5 ft
3.	17 MAY	Bukit Mertajam MALAYSIA	1.5 ft
4.	26 MAY	Kulin MALAYSIA	1.5 ft
5.	20 AUG	Omaha, Nebraska, USA	3.5 ft
6.	28 AUG	Hampshire, ENGLAND	9 in
7.	29 AUG	Three Counties, ENGLAND	9 in
8.	4 SEPT	New Richmond, WI., USA	3.0 ft
9.	00 NOV	London, ENGLAND	15 in

-----  
 \*\* A discussion on the above topic can be seen in Journal UFO, December 1980, by John Nagor.

\* \* \* \* \*

In September 1978, Ray Fischer, former VUFORS Secretary and Les Bristol, completed a compilation of UFO Reports from the Victorian Press. They were assisted with this two year project by Members Michael McNamara, Guy Richards and Agnes Briggs.

The report throws the spotlight on a "forgotten" period in the history of the UFO phenomenon in Victoria - the year 1954, when the press and the public seemed to discover the flying saucer. Copies of the report are available to members at \$3.00; Overseas Members \$4.00.

....  
"APPENDIX II.

R.A.A.F. INTEREST

The RAAF is definitely interested in "flying saucers"..An RAAF spokesman said last night : "We would be fools if we were not interested. People are definitely seeing something and we hope to find out what it is. The RAAF has an open mind on saucers. We haven't rejected them as impossible or accepted them as fact yet. There is a high ranking opinion in the Force that saucers do exist and you can't shake it. The RAAF has been receiving saucer reports and investigating them since the war" (4, Jan.7).

continued....

\*The Herald, Jan. 5, reported: The DCA has received 9 reports of strange aerial objects since November, 1951. The reports came from Qld., NSW and Victoria. They included reports from an airline captain, the crew of a RAAF Lincoln bomber, DCA officers and an aerodrome groundsman. (Brief accounts of these sightings were given).

The RAAF is taking "flying saucer" reports in Australia seriously. In a statement today - the first ever made officially by the RAAF - a high-ranking officer said the RAAF had been investigating "flying saucer" reports since 1947. He added that it had received hundreds of reports. Each was treated confidentially.

"We are anxious to get to the bottom of the reports. We have an open mind, but who are we to say the public is just seeing things", he said. "We don't know if we are the only planet with life on it, or if there are better brains in the universe than ours. We should be flying into space ourselves within 100 years. Our investigations show that 10% of the people reporting to us have definitely seen something - and many of the reports correspond. And many of the people making the reports should know what they are talking about, especially pilots".

Each report is investigated by a RAAF Intelligence Officer, and 24 questions put to the person making the report are tabulated in a 2 page "Report on Aerial Object Observed" form. The RAAF then investigates the report itself. A check is made with the DCA and meteorological and astronomical experts. Details of any plane or object definitely established to be in the area at the same time are then added to the form. The form is then placed in a confidential file. The reports are not published, to prevent people from making false sightings, and so that a true and accurate check can be made on similar observations. (3. Jan 8.)

....He (a high RAAF officer) said that since the RAAF was charged with the defence of Australia, it was its duty to investigate reports of flying objects. No one in the department could say definitely what the objects were. "We want people who are sure they have seen an unidentified flying object in the sky to report to us", he said. "But we do not want reports from people who only think they may have seen something".

Features of the RAAF data were :

- \* 10% of the reports showed the person making it had definitely seen something.
- \* Details in many of the reports corresponded.
- \* 75% of the reports had come from the country districts. This eliminated the possibility that those reporting them had seen concentrations of aircraft, cloud reflections of city lights, aircraft landing lights or weather balloons.
- \* The number of reports of sightings from aircraft in flight had increased in recent months.

The officer said no sightings had been made from an RAAF machine. The aerial observations had all come from civil aircraft (1, Jan 9.)

A few hours after the RAAF disclosed yesterday that it was treating flying saucer reports "very seriously", two strange objects were seen in Victorian skies....

In Melbourne yesterday a high-ranking RAAF officer said that he personally believed "objects seen in the sky over Melbourne have an interplanetary source". The officer revealed that the RAAF had been "thoroughly investigating flying saucer reports since 1947"...  
 ...."The RAAF is keeping an open mind on the objects, but I personally am convinced they have an interplanetary source. People on this earth should be able to fly into outer space within about 40 years - why shouldn't people on other planets already have reached this stage?" (said the officer). (2. Jan 9.).



ANOTHER INTERESTING ARTICLE FROM "NEWS WORLD", New York, N.Y. -

7th November, 1981.....

"SOVIETS CHANGE STANCE TOWARDS UFO SIGHTINGS" by A. Hovni.

Like most countries on Earth, official statements from the Soviet Union concerning UFOs have been quite contradictory throughout the years. When flying saucers were raging over the United States in the '50s and '60s, the Soviets would issue scattered comments to the effect that UFOs were only "Pentagon propaganda" or "nightmares of the capitalist countries". Yet by 1967 the UFO phenomenon had a brief and complete turn-around when Professor Felix Zeigel, the USSR's foremost UFOlogist, and Major General P.A. Stolyarov, appeared on prime time Soviet TV to tell the citizenry that it was their patriotic duty to report to the authorities any unusual object they may see in the skies.

A year later, Pravda, the Communist Party's mass organ, reversed the situation by declaring that the study of UFOs was "unscientific". UFOlogists were back to the underground, where they had learned to cover themselves as "science-fiction enthusiasts". Yet the 1967 opening had a precise reason. The data collected then became the raw material for a detailed "statistical analysis" of 256 UFO sightings conducted by the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research. When the report was released in 1979 under the title of "Observations of Anomalous Atmospheric Phenomena in the USSR : Statistical Analysis" (quickly translated to English in "NASA Technical Memorandum No. 75665" and later distributed by the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill), it became obvious that UFOs were no longer "unscientific".

State-run press eyes UFOs

In the last couple of years, a surprising number of UFO-related articles have appeared in the state-controlled press, and some of them have been reprinted in Sputnik magazine and other Soviet publications in foreign languages. For the most part, these articles attempt to explain away UFOs as some sort of natural phenomena like "chemiluminescence formations (CLFs)," a chemical reaction caused by atmospheric pollution, yet they make it clear that Soviet authorities are investigating UFOs, or "anomalous atmospheric phenomena", as they are officially known. A recent article in Sputnik on the CLF theory, for instance, stated at one point that "thousands of observations and photographic pictures of these phenomena have been collected and studied in Soviet laboratories".

UFO reports in the USSR vary depending under which channel they are released. Some of the hottest sightings came from a 1977 lecture reportedly given by Professor Zeigel to a group of Soviet technocrats. The report was leaked out, perhaps deliberately, and distributed through the "samizdat" network of underground literature, eventually reaching Western researchers. Although half of the report was devoted to American UFOlogy, a few good cases were mentioned here for the first time.

On August 31, 1961, for example, several cars were stalled on a highway some 30 miles from Moscow, when a UFO hovered on top of an underpass for a few minutes. The cars could not start until the UFO left. According to Zeigel's lecture, another incident was reported by Valentin Akkuratov, one of the USSR's pioneer Arctic aviators, during a flight over Greenland in 1956. Chief-pilot Akkuratov was paced by a saucer-shaped UFO for about 15 minutes, always maintaining the same distance from his plane. A second UFO approached the plane also for brief moments. Akkuratov's report indicates that whenever he tried to either escape from or approach the object in order to get a better look of it, the UFO would always keep the same distance. Zeigel also mentioned a sighting by three astronomers in Letonia, and a landing case on the region of

Volongonsk on January 1976, in which it was possible to estimate that the 30 meter diameter ring left on the ground indicated the object weighed 30 tons.

Chart of sightings

The 1979 official Academy of Sciences report does not describe any particular incident in detail, but it provides three charts with "observation of anomalous phenomena" on three specific dates in 1967 - July 17, September 19 and October 18 - over a wide range of sites in Soviet territory. The Sept. 19 "crescent-like object" for instance, was spotted in eight Ukrainian cities, in Russia, in the Belgorod District, and finally by passenger aircraft flight No. 404 between Voroshilovgrad and Volgograd, which reported the UFO was "hovering" and "Maneuvering around (the) aircraft".

The bulk of the study concerns statistical aspects such as time distribution of events, types of objects, observer categories, duration of sighting, object structure and nature of luminosity, etc. Some of the statistics are quite astounding because they demolish popular but faulty stereotypes about UFO eyewitnesses. A chart distributing the observers by specialties, indicates the largest group of witnesses is that of scientists with 25 percent (of which 7.5 percent are astronomers), while the second group are engineers with a 17.5 percent, and the third pilots with an 11 percent. At the bottom of the chart with 1 percent each, are maintenance workers and seamen. This led authors Gindilis, Men'kov and Petrovskaya to state that "in the majority of the cases, the observers had quite high qualifications", which raised "the reliability of the initial material". Although careful to avoid any opinion regarding the possible origin of UFOs, the authors concluded that "we are concerned with a specific class of phenomena" and not "hallucinations or false reports", and finally that further scientific research should be carried on.

Situation changed considerably

Undoubtedly since the release of the statistical report, the situation has changed considerably for Soviet scientists studying or discussing in public their research in the field. It wasn't always like that. A 1975 heavily censored CIA declassified document on UFOs mentions a Soviet scientist that told "half jokingly" an unnamed source that "someone must have made a political decision that they (UFOs) were not to be sighted anymore". That political decision seems to have been reversed now, although no one knows for how long. The Soviet press continues to deny categorically - much like the U.S. Air Force in the days of its Project Bluebook press releases - that there is not one shred of evidence to prove that UFOs are extraterrestrial, yet they no longer deny that people are seeing them. A mostly debunking Sputnik article, titled "UFOs Through the Eyes of Cosmonauts", quoted Soyuz-5 cosmonaut Yevgeni Khrunov saying that, "as regards UFOs, their presence cannot be denied : thousands of people have seen them. It may be that their source is optical effects but some of their properties, for instance, their ability to change course by 90 degrees at great speed, simply stagger the imagination. "The days of 'Pentagon propoganda' and the 'unscientific' nature of UFOs are over...at least for the time being.

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...From the "Sunday Globe", Boston, MA - Nov. 8, 1981,  
CR: B. Greenwood.

LATIN AMERICA ... UFO reported in 3 nations / Stephen Kinzer.

A classic UFO mystery is the talk of South America this week. On Oct. 31st an oval object flashing brilliant lights was seen by thousands of persons in the Chilean capital of Santiago. The air force said it had no planes in the air at the time, but private pilots were reported to have photographed the flying object.

continued...



The unknown craft traveled northward.. crossing the city of Arica and entering Peru in sight of many before veering southeast toward Brazil. That is where the plot thickens.

According to witnesses and press reports, four Brazilian hunters in the northwestern state of Maranhao were killed by green, orange, red and yellow rays emitted by the UFO.

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....from "The Herald", Buenos Aires, Argentina..Nov 2nd, 1981,  
Cr. J. Thomas.

PILOTS SIGHT UFO IN CORDOBA, NOT SEEN FROM GROUND.  
Cordoba..

The pilots of two commercial flights on Saturday night claimed to have seen an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) in this province, it was reported yesterday.

Pedro Heslop, commanding Austral airlines flight 408, and Alberto Paracampo, on Aerolineas Argentinas flight 510, both said that at about 9.15 pm on Saturday they saw a "bright, round, huge object in the middle of which there was another, smaller bright object" flying through the sky.

The local daily La Voz del Interior, reporting the news yesterday, said the reported UFO could not be seen from the ground because of prevailing weather conditions.

Reporting the incident, Heslop said he saw the UFO as he was just about to come in for landing, adding that the object was at an approximate altitude of 180 metres. Paracampo's report checked with that of his colleague. He said the UFO was in the vicinity of the town of Marcos Juarez.(NA).

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#### V. U. F. O. R. S. EXHIBITION.

13th MARCH - FROM 10 am - 6 p.m. - 9 VICTORIA STREET. MELBOURNE.

WE WILL BE DISPLAYING BOARDS OF PHOTOS, PRESS CLIPS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM HOME AND ABROAD.

THERE WILL BE SLIDES, PHOTOS AND COMPUTER PRINTOUTS. TAPED INTERVIEWS WITH CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITNESSES AND LEADING INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS IN U.F.O. RESEARCH.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS WILL ALSO BE ON SALE.

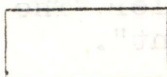
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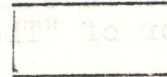
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MEMBERS - PLEASE NOTE - IS YOUR SUBSCRIPTION DUE?

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MEMBERSHIP QUERIES CAN BE SENT TO:

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, V.U.F.O.R.S.,

P.O. BOX 43, MOORABBIN, VIC. 3189.

UFO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION WEEK DECLARED by Hal McKenzie

Credit : 'News World', New York, N.Y. Oct.31, 1981.

Last week was declared "National UFO Freedom of Information Week" by two Washington D.C. area organizations seeking to lift the lid of government secrecy from UFOs.

The week was highlighted by a press conference Tuesday led by Bronx lawyer Peter Gersten and the appeal Wednesday of a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the supersecret National Security Agency (NSA) which is withholding at least 135 UFO-related documents from the public.

At the press conference, Gersten discussed the NSA lawsuit and announced a new suit against the Air Force for the release of 20 to 30 documents concerning the 1975-76 UFO sightings over sensitive military bases across the United States.

In the suit against the NSA, brought by Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, the District Court ruled that the agency was justified in withholding the documents because of the sensitive nature of the materials and the obvious effect on national security their release would entail. CAUS appealed the decision and oral arguments were heard Wednesday.

Gersten said, although winning the appeal was unlikely, "we're keeping our fingers crossed" and that at the very least, "many people" were there who heard our arguments. "The difficulty in the appeal, Gersten said, is that the court would have to "set a new precedent" in having the sensitive documents returned to another court for review.

Gersten said it was "an interesting fact that 18 of the documents were sent to the CIA, why we don't know". He speculated that the data in those documents related to information only the CIA had the technical means to evaluate.

CAUS said it plans on filing suit against the Air Force early in November for the release of documents "relating to 1) unknown tracks, 2) 'Now you see it, No you don't'; and 3) the 1975 invasion of unknown objects over Strategic Air Command (SAC) installations".

Air Force cover-up suspect

Gersten, a New York attorney associated with the law firm of Rothblatt, Rothblatt and Seijas in the Bronx, won the release of over 900 pages of UFO documents as counsel for Ground Saucer Watch in a suit against the CIA. He has written two articles "What the U.S. Government Really Knows About Unidentified Flying Objects" published in 'Frontiers of Science', and "What the U.S. Government Would know about UFOs If they Read their own Documents" published in the 1981 proceedings of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

Accompanying Gersten at the Washington press conference were Dr. Bruce Maccabee, U.S. Navy physicist and chairman of the Fund for UFO Research, who has spent over 10 years in UFO studies and investigated the famous New Zealand sightings of December, 1978; ... Stephen Bruce Eichner, a U.S. airman in 1975 assigned to Loring Air Force Base, Maine, who saw a UFO hovering over an ammo dump; .... nuclear physicist Stanton T. Friedman, a full-time UFO lecturer who has provided testimony to congressional UFO hearings in 1968 and at the United Nations in 1978; ... and writer William L. Moore, author of the international best seller "The Philadelphia Experiment" and co-author of "The Roswell Incident".

The two sponsoring organizations are - Fund for UFO Research, P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712, phone (703)683-2786; and Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, P.O. Box 4743, Arlington, Va. 22204, phone (703)920-0593.